

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended)

A thermoplastic resin composition comprising a thermoplastic resin, between 3 and 400% by weight of filler based on the weight of the resin, said filler comprising talc and microsilica where the weight ratio between talc and microsilica is between 15:1 and 1:15, said microsilica being an amorphous particulate having a size of about 0.15 µm, containing at least 70% by weight SiO₂ and obtained from a gaseous phase from the reduction of silica.

2. (Previously presented)

The thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1 wherein the weight ratio of talc and microsilica is between 6:1 and 1:5.

3. (Currently Amended)

A method for production of a thermoplastic resin composition comprising adding talc and microsilica to a thermoplastic resin in a total amount between 3 and 400% by weight based on the weight of thermoplastic resin, where the weight ratio between talc and microsilica is kept between 15:1 and 1:15, said microsilica being an amorphous

particulate having a size of about 0.15 µm, containing at least 70% by weight SiO₂ and obtained from a gaseous phase from the reduction of silica, whereafter the mixture is formed into a thermoplastic resin composition.

4. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 3 wherein the talc and microsilica are added to the thermoplastic resin as a mixture of talc and microsilica.

5. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 3 wherein the talc and microsilica are added separately to the thermoplastic resin.

6. (Currently amended)

A filler blend for use in thermoplastic resin composition consists of talc and microsilica in a weight ratio between 15:1 and 1:15, said microsilica being an amorphous particulate having a size of about 0.15 µm, containing at least 70% by weight SiO₂ and obtained from a gaseous phase from the reduction of silica.

7. (Currently amended)

The filler blend according to claim 6 wherein the filler blend consists of talc and microsilica in a weight ratio between 6:1 and 1:5.

8. (Previously presented)

The thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic resin is selected from the group consisting of polyolefines, polyvinylchloride and polyamides.

9. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 3 wherein the thermoplastic resin is selected from the group consisting of polyolefines, polyvinylchloride and polyamides.

10. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 3 wherein the weight ratio of talc and microsilica is between 6:1 and 1:5.

11. (Previously presented)

The thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 8 wherein the weight ratio of talc and microsilica is between 6:1 and 1:5.

12. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 9 wherein the talc and microsilica are added to the thermoplastic resin as a mixture of talc and microsilica.

13. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 9 wherein the talc and microsilica are added separately to the thermoplastic resin.

14. (Currently Amended)

A method for production of a thermoplastic resin product comprising:

adding talc and microsilica to a thermoplastic resin in a total amount between 3 and 400% by weight based on the weight of thermoplastic resin and where the weight ratio between talc and microsilica is kept between 15:1 and 1:15 to form a mix, said microsilica being an amorphous particulate having a size of about 0.15 µm, containing at least 70% by weight SiO₂ and obtained from a gaseous phase from the reduction of silica; and

compounding said mix to form a thermoplastic resin product.

15. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 14 wherein the compounding is selected from the group consisting of extruding, calendaring, and injection molding.

16. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 14 wherein the thermoplastic resin is selected from the group consisting of polyolefines, polyvinylchloride, and polyamides.

17. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 14 wherein the talc and microsilica are added to the thermoplastic resin as a mixture of talc and microsilica.

18. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 14 wherein the talc and microsilica are added separately to the thermoplastic resin.

19. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 14 wherein the weight ratio of talc and microsilica is between 6:1 and 1:5.

20. (Previously presented)

The method according to claim 16 wherein:

compounding is extruding;

the talc and microsilica are added
to the thermoplastic resin as a mixture; and
the weight ratio of talc and microsilica
is between 6:1 and 1:5.